

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
vs.
SUSAN C. McKITRICK,
Defendant.

Case No. 1:05-cr-00004-HRH

ORDER DIRECTING
SERVICE AND RESPONSE

On November 22, 2006, Susan C. McKitrick, representing herself, filed a timely motion to set aside, vacate or correct sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, alleging, in effect, the voluntariness of her plea.¹

Under Rules 4, 5 and 8(b) of the Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings for the United States District Courts, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:**

1. The Clerk of Court is directed serve a copy of the § 2255 motion, at docket number 268, and a copy of this Order, on the United States Attorney for the District of Alaska.

¹ See Docket No. 268.

2. The Criminal Justice Act (CJA)² authorizes this Court to appoint an attorney for a *habeas* petitioner who cannot afford her own attorney. Ms. McKitrick must file any request for court-appointed counsel on or before **January 5, 2007**, on the enclosed Application for Appointment of Counsel and Financial Affidavit. In the alternative, on or before **January 5, 2007**, Ms. McKitrick will file a notice of intent to proceed without counsel, and to represent herself.³
3. The Clerk of Court is directed to send this Court's form USDCA 40, Application for Appointment of Counsel, a form CJA 23, Financial Affidavit, and a Notice of Intent to Proceed Without Counsel, to [REDACTED] with a copy of this Order.
4. The United States Attorney will file an answer or other responsive pleading on or before **February 5, 2007**, unless Ms. McKitrick is appointed a lawyer.⁴ The answer will respond to the allegations of the motion, and in addition, state whether Ms. McKitrick has used any other available federal remedies, including any prior post-conviction motions under these rules, to address the issues presented.⁵ The United States Attorney must also supplement the

² See 18 U.S.C. § 3006, et. seq.

³ See D. Ak. HCR 4.1(a).

⁴ If counsel is appointed, the Court will give counsel an opportunity to file an amended petition, and may set a new timetable.

⁵ See Rule 5, Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings.

answer or response with appropriate copies of transcripts, affidavits and a memorandum of points and authorities material to the issues raised.

5. The Court may hold an evidentiary hearing on its own motion, or on the motion of a party. Either party may make a motion for an evidentiary hearing within 30 days after the date the United States Attorney files an answer. The motion must contain a clear and concise statement of the necessity of the hearing, including why the evidence in the record is not sufficient.⁶
6. Ms. McKitrick must serve a copy of all further papers she sends or delivers to the Court upon the United States Attorney. Ms. McKitrick will include, with any original paper to be filed with the Clerk of Court, a certificate stating the date that an exact copy of the document was mailed to the United States Attorney. A certificate of service may be written in the following form at the end of her document:

I hereby certify that a copy of the above (name of document) was mailed, first class, U.S. Mail, to the United States Attorney, at 222 West 7th Ave., Mail Box 9, Room 253, Anchorage, Alaska 99513 on (date).

(Ms. McKitrick's Signature)

Any papers received by a United States District Judge or Magistrate Judge which have not been filed with the Clerk of Court, or which fail to include a certificate of service, will be disregarded by the Court. Ms. McKitrick should not write letters to the Court, but must file any requests for action by the Court

⁶ See D. Ak. HCR 8.1.

during these proceedings in the form of a **motion**.

7. The Clerk of Court is directed to send a copy of the Court's prisoner's motion form, PS15, to Ms. McKitrick with this Order.
8. Ms. McKitrick must provide the Court with the original, plus one complete and legible copy, of every paper she submits for filing, as required by this Court's Local Rule 10.1(b).
9. At all times, Ms. McKitrick shall keep the Court informed of her current address, and if her address changes, she shall file a notice titled "NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS," which shall contain **only** information about the change of address, and its effective date, not any requests for any other relief; failure to file the notice may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute under Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
10. This case is referred to Magistrate Judge Pallenberg to hear and decide all procedural or discovery motions and other pre-trial matters, and to give the Court his report and recommendation, under Local Magistrate Rule 4(4).
11. No party may have any *ex parte* communication (that is, communication without the presence and/or knowledge and consent of the other parties) with a United States District Judge or Magistrate Judge of this Court about the merits of this action.
12. The Clerk of Court is directed to send a copy of our *pro se* handbook, "Representing Yourself in Alaska's Federal Court," to Ms. McKitrick with this

Order.

DATED this 30th day of November, 2006, at Anchorage, Alaska.

/s/H. Russel Holland
United States District Judge